



H.Res. 708 - Honoring the life and accomplishments of Luciano Pavarotti and recognizing the significant and positive impact of his astounding musical talent, his achievement in raising the profile of opera with audiences around the world, and his commitment to charitable causes

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 708 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Loretta Sanchez (D-CA) on October 2, 2007. The bill was referred to the Foreign Affairs Committee, but was never considered.

H.Res. 708 is expected to be considered on the floor on December 11, 2007.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 708 resolves that the House of Representatives honors the life and accomplishments of Luciano Pavarotti and recognizes the significant and positive impact of his astounding musical talent, his achievement in raising the profile of opera with audiences around the world, and his commitment to charitable causes.

BACKGROUND

Luciano Pavarotti was born on October 12, 1935, in the outskirts of Modena, Italy. Pavarotti first began singing in a church choir at the age of 9 and at the age of 19, began serious voice training under Arrigo Pola, a respected teacher and professional tenor in Modena, Italy.

He made his operatic debut on April 29, 1961, as Rodolfo in *La Boheme* by Giacomo Puccini, at the opera house in Reggio Emilia. Four years later he made his American debut at the Greater Miami Opera in the opera *Donizetti's Lucia di Lammermoor*.

Pavarotti organized and hosted the annual "Pavarotti and Friends" charity concerts in his home town of Modena in Italy, to raise money for United Nations' causes. He also sang at numerous benefit concerts to help victims of natural and manmade tragedies.

In 1998 Mr. Pavarotti was named the United Nations Messenger of Peace. In 2001 he received the Nansen Medal from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees for

his efforts raising money on behalf of refugees worldwide and that same year he received the Kennedy Center Honors.

Luciano Pavarotti died on September 6, 2007 in a hospital in Modena, Italy.

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Luke Hatzis at (202) 226-2302.